

## REMARKS

Claims 1, 8, 15, 21, 29, 30, and 37 have been amended to clarify the subject matter regarded as the invention. Claims 1-44 are pending.

The foregoing amendments are not to be taken as an admission of unpatentability of any of the claims prior to the amendments.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-44 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mattis in view of Cloutier. Mattis teaches detecting duplicate objects in a caching environment. Cloutier teaches generating a unique code for a message that allows access to content of the message. Mattis and Cloutier do not teach, either singularly or in combination, “the message tags stored in a single shared index file are computed from at least a portion of respective messages properties of messages retrieved from a plurality of mailboxes” associated with multiple electronic mail recipients, as amended in claim 1. As such claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

Furthermore, even if Mattis and Cloutier between them did describe all the limitations of claim 1, which they do not, neither provides any motivation or suggestion to combine the teaching of the two references, which describe different and distinct contexts (object cache versus email notification and retrieval), to arrive at the invention of claim 1.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Claim 8 as amended recites, “the single shared index file stores message tags computed from at least a portion of respective messages properties of messages retrieved from a plurality of mailboxes” associated with multiple electronic mail recipients. As such, claim 8 is believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Claims 9-14 depend from claim 8 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Claim 15 as amended recites, “the message tags stored in the single shared index file are computed from at least a portion of respective messages properties of messages retrieved from a

plurality of mailboxes” associated with multiple electronic mail recipients. As such, claim 15 is believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Claims 16-20 depend from claim 15 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Claim 21 as amended recites, “the pre-determined message tags are computed from at least a portion of respective messages properties of messages retrieved from a plurality of mailboxes associated with the multiple electronic mail recipients.” As such, claim 21 is believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Claims 22-29 depend from claim 21 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Claim 30 as amended recites, “the single shared index file stores message tags computed from at least a portion of respective messages properties of messages retrieved from a plurality of mailboxes” associated with multiple electronic mail recipients. As such, claim 30 is believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Claims 31-36 depend from claim 30 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

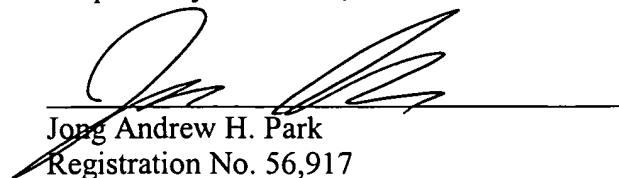
Claim 37 as amended recites, “the single shared index file stores message tags computed from at least a portion of respective messages properties of messages retrieved from a plurality of mailboxes” associated with multiple electronic mail recipients. As such, claim 37 is believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Claims 38-44 depend from claim 37 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Reconsideration of the application and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested based on the preceding remarks. If at any time the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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